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- (54) Title of the Invention: VEHICLE ROOM LAMP
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  - (22) Filing Date: April 7, 1981
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#### **SPECIFICATION**

1. Title of the Invention

Vehicle Room Lamp

#### 2. Claims

A vehicle room lamp characterized as comprising:

a rail body, which has

- a conductive body and guiding part, which are arranged on the ceiling inside a vehicle passenger compartment, and
- a connector,

and a lamp body, which is slidably attached to this rail body,

and by the fact that this lamp body comprises:

- a lamp case, which has a guiding part that smoothly fits on the guiding part of the rail body,
  - a lamp, which is disposed within this lamp case, and
  - a slider, which slides along said conductive body size to provide current to this lamp.

## 3. Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention relates to a vehicle room lamp which is attached so as to be movable along the ceiling in the passenger compartment of a vehicle.

In various types of vehicles, beginning with passenger cars, a room lamp is provided in a suitable position on the ceiling inside the passenger compartment, conveniently allowing passengers to enter or leave the car by illuminating the interior when a door is opened during nighttime driving, or by illuminating the passenger compartment as appropriate during driving, by operating a manual switch provided on the room lamp, thereby serving various convenient purposes.

Conventional room lamps of this type, as shown in Fig. 1, are generally located in a position on the sides of the passenger compartment ceiling 1, an upper position on the center pillar 2, or the approximate center of the ceiling 1, and, like normal lamps, have a form in which the surface of an electric bulb fitted into a socket is covered by a lamp case 4.

Nevertheless, in conventional room lamps 3 of this type, in many cases the lamp is fixed in roughly an intermediate position between the front seats and back seats, and is arranged so as to illuminate the passenger compartment uniformly. As a result, on the contrary, illumination at each seat is weak, the lighting arrangement is poor, and when one desires the bright illumination of one location among the front or rear or left or right seats, only a low-intensity light can be obtained. As one countermeasure, there are also vehicles with multiple room lamps installed in the ceiling area. However, in this case as well, it is not necessarily possible to obtain sufficient lighting in the desired location, and there are also problems such as the complexity of the wiring.

The present invention was produced from the foregoing standpoint and has the objective of solving the aforementioned problems by comprising a vehicle room lamp with a rail body arranged on the ceiling inside the passenger compartment and a lamp body that is slidably attached to this rail body, thus allowing the lamp be moved when necessary.

The present invention is explained below in further detail based on working examples depicted in the attached drawings.

Fig. 2 shows an example in which a vehicle room lamp 5 according to the present invention is placed on the lateral area of a vehicle interior ceiling 1. This room lamp 5, as shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, for example, comprises a rail body 6 and lamp body 19.

The rail body 6 shown in Fig. 3 is an oblong body having a roughly channel cross-sectional form. Grooves 8, 8 which form the guiding part are formed along the lengthwise direction on the upper inside face on both sides 7, 7, and inside the base part 9, 2 conductive bodies 10, 10 are formed parallel along the longitudinal direction thereof. At one end of the longitudinal direction, a connector 11 is formed, inside of which, as shown in Fig. 5, a terminal 12, which connects to the aforesaid conductive bodies 10, 10, is provided. When the connector 13 on the current supply side is plugged into the connector 11 on the rail body 6, it engages with the terminal 14 of the supply-side connector 13, and current is supplied to the aforesaid conductive bodies 10, 10. Anchoring holes 16 and 16' for anchoring the rail body 6 by means of pieces 15 and 15' are formed at both longitudinal ends of the rail body 6. Bristles 17 are formed facing inward on the upper edge of the two sides 7, 7 of the rail body 6, hiding the interior of the rail body 6 and improving its appearance. In Fig. 3, 18 is a cable for supplying current.

Meanwhile, the lamp body 19 that is slidably attached to the aforesaid rail body 6, as shown in Fig. 4, which shows a disassembled perspective view, and Fig. 6, which shows an assembly diagram, a comprises a lamp case 22, which is composed of a surface part 20 and base part 21, a pair of sliders 23 and 23', which are housed inside the lamp case 22 and are attached so as to allow it to slide on the aforesaid conductive body 10, and a lamp 24, which is held and fixed on these sliders 23 and 23'. The surface part 20 of the lamp case 22 is molded in a box form using a material having a high light scattering factor. A pair of tabs 25, which are located on the bottom edge on the left and right sides, are fitted into insertion slots 26, which are formed in positions corresponding to the aforesaid tabs 25 to the upper face of the base part 21, and are fusion-bonded thereto and thereby integrated with the base part 21. The base part 21, which has a

rectangular form similar to the surface part 20, has upper and lower openings 27 and 28, and the ends of legs 29, which are formed in the four corners thereof, are all bent outward in the left or right directions to form four claws 30. These claws 30 smoothly fit together with grooves 8 formed on the aforesaid rail body 6 and slide inside the grooves 8. In this working example, the guiding part of the rail body 6 is formed by the grooves 8, and the guided part of the lamp case 22 is formed by the claws 30, but this may also be constituted by making the guiding part the claws and the guided part grooves formed on the legs 29 of the base part 21.

The aforesaid insertion slots 26 on the left and right sides of the upper face surrounding the opening in which the upper opening 27 of the base part 21 is formed are provided with rivet through helps 21. described by

through-holes 31, described below, on the front and back sides thereof.

The sliders 23 and 23' have rivet receiving holes 32 on their upper face, and, as shown in Fig. 6, are fixed to the lamp case 22 by means of rivets 33, which pass from the rivet receiving holes 32 through the rivet through-holes 31. Additionally, the sliders 23 and 23' are formed so that the lower portion is thinner so as to maintain flexibility. By fixing the curved parts 34, 34' of the ends thereof to the lamp case 22 so that they mutually alternate in the left and right directions, the respective curved parts 34 and 34' are formed so as to be in contact with the conductive bodies 10 and 10 of the rail body 6 as shown in Fig. 6. Additionally, in the approximate center of the sliders 23 and 23', support holes 35, 35' are formed for supporting the two ends of the lamp 24, and, as shown in Fig. 6, not only directly support the lamp 24, but also allow current to flow to the lamp 24 from the conductive bodies 10.

If the rail body 6 and lamp body 19, which are constituted as described above, as shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 7, for example, are fused to the roof panel 36, and are provided as a room lamp 5 on the roof side rail 38 arranged in the vehicle lateral direction on the upper parts of the doors 37 and 37', first, the rail body 6 is fixed by means of pieces 15 on the inside of the inner panel 39 of the roof side rail 38, and the upper edges of both sides 7, 7 of this rail body 6 are covered and hidden by a head lining 40. Next, the lamp body 19 that has been assembled as shown in Fig. 6 is attached to the rail body 6. As shown in Fig. 7, in this attachment the claws 30, 30 of the lamp body 19 are fitted into the left and right grooves 8, 8 of the rail body 6, but attachment can also be performed easily while the area in the vicinity of the claws 30, 30 is pushed inward. The claws 30, 30 can move smoothly inside the grooves 8, 8. By means of this attachment, the end curved parts 34, 34' of the sliders 23, 23' are brought in contact with the respective conductive bodies 10, 10. Accordingly, when the lamp body 19 is moved, the claws 30, 30 smoothly move inside the grooves 8, 8, and the sliders 23, 23' slide on the conductive bodies 10, 10, so that the lamp can be used in a desired position on the rail body 6. A current supply connector 13 is brought in contact with the end connector 11 of the rail body 6, and other room lamp switching circuits or manual switches, etc. provided on the room lamp are constituted in the same way as in a conventional room lamp.

The room lamp of this working example is explained for the case where room lamps are attached to both sides on the left and right roof side rails, but the present invention is not limited to this configuration, and can be attached the forward or backward direction in the center area of a vehicle ceiling, or in the crosswise directions in the front, back or center of the ceiling.

By means of the present invention, as explained above, since the rail body is provided in a desired location on the ceiling of the vehicle interior and the lamp body can be made to move along this rail body, the lamp can be moved to illuminate a desired location, and the room lamp can be used more effectively been in the past. For example, by means the present invention, newspapers or magazines can be read more easily inside the car at night.

Moreover, by means of the present invention, since the current is supplied by means of connectors, the wiring can be made shorter than in cases in which the room lamp is placed in the center of the ceiling inside vehicle, and wiring protection parts can be reduced, so that wiring costs can also be reduced.

#### 4. Brief Explanation of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing an example of the attachment position of a conventional room lamp, Fig. 2 is a diagram showing an example of the attachment position of a room lamp according to the present invention, Fig. 3 is a perspective drawing of the rail body, Fig. 4 is a disassembled perspective drawing of the lamp body, Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional explanatory diagram of the connector part, Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional explanatory diagram showing the assembled state of the lamp body, and Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional diagram along the line A-A in Fig. 2 showing the attached state of the room lamp.

1... ceiling

6... rail body

10... conductive body

19... lamp body

23... slider

30... claw (guided part)

3, 5... room lamp

8... groove (guiding part)

11... connector

22... lamp case

24... lamp

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①特許出願公開

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⑤車両用ルームランプ

뗽

願 昭56-51094

②特②出

頭 昭56(1981)4月7日

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1. 発明の名称

車両用ルームランプ

2. 特許請求の範囲

車室内の天井に配設されて導電体とガイド部とを有し、かつコネクタを有するレール本体と、このレール本体に摺断可能に取り付けられたランプ本体とからなり、このランプ本体はレール本体のガイド部に滑合する被ガイド部を有けるランプケースと、このランプに電流を供給すべるこれを導電体に摺接する霜動子とで構成されることを特数とする車両用ルームランプ。

3. 発明の静制な説明

本発明は、車富内の天井に移動可能に取付け られた車両用ルームランプに関する。

乗用車をはじめとする各額車両には、車影内 天井の満宜位間にルームランプが設けられてむ り、夜間走行においてドア開時に車室内を照ら して乗降のための便宜を図つたり、又はルーム ランプに設けられた手動用スイッチを操作する ととにより、走行中でも適宜車室内を照らして 棚々の便宜を図つている。

従来との穏のルームランプは、第1図に示すように、一般的には車室内天井1の仰方部分であって、かつセンターピラー2の上部位置か、又は天井1の略中央部分に固定されており、昔のランプと同様、ソケットに差し込んだ観球の表面をランプケース4で避つた形式のものであった。

しかしながら、このような従来のルームラシン 3 にもつては、多くが前席と後席と 0 に照れており、車窗内を一様にており、車窗内を一様にてもかったりに配慮されていたために、かり、配代でものになるのに、前席又は後席を、若しい時ではかつたりして、前席を強く関いてものになるとが、この一合でも必ずしも所付けた車両もあるが、この一をでも必ずしも所

設備所に充分な光量を得ることができなかつた 他、配額が複雑になる等の問題点があつた。

本発明は、以上の観点に立つてなされたものであり、 車室内天井に配設されたレール本体と、このレール本体に摺動可能に取付けたランプ本体とで車両用ルームランプを構成することにより、 必要な時に応じてランプを移動できるようにして上記問題点を解決せん <del>ととを目的</del>としたものである。

以下添付図面に示す実施例に基いて本発明を 静細に説明する。

第2 図は、車室内天井 1 の側方部分に本発明に係る車両用ルームランプ 5 を散けた場合の一例を示したものであり、このルームランプ 5 は例をは第3 図及び第4 図に示すように、レール本体 6 とランプ本体 19とで構成されている。

第3図に示すレール本体 6 は、断面略チャン ネル状の長尺体からなり、両側部 7 , 7 の内側 上縁にはガイド部となる満条 8 , 8 が長手方向 に沿つて形成されると共に、底部 9 内側には、

(3)

上を摺動すべく取付けられた一対の摺動子23, 23'と、この摺動子 23,23'に支持固定されたラン プ 24とで構成されている。ランプケース 22の姿 面部20は、光散乱率の大きい材質で箱形に成形 されており、左右側部の下端部に夫々一対すつ 設けられた突片25が、碁部21上面の上記突片25 に対応する位置に穿設された差込穴26に嵌め込 まれ溶着固定されることによって基部21と一体 となる。この表面部20と略同一の大きさに矩形 状に成形される茶部21は、上下に開口27,28を 有し、四隅部に形成された脚29の先端がいずれ も左右側外方に折曲されて四個の爪30を柳成し ている。との爪30は、前記レール本体6に設け られた関係8に滑合して、関係8内を摺動する。 尚、この実施例では、レール本体6のガイド部 を満条8で構成し、ランプケース22の被ガイド 部を爪30で構成したが、これとは反対にガイド 部を爪で、被ガイド部を基部21の脚29に形成し た溝により構成してもよい。

一方、上配レール本体 6 に 摺動可能に取付けられるランプ本体 19 は、分解斜視図で示した第 4 図及び胡立図で示した第 6 図に示すように、 変面部 20 と基部 21 とからなるランプケース 22 と、 このランプケース 22 内に収納され前記導電体 10

(4)

摺動子 23・23'は、上面にリベット受け孔 32を有しており、第6図に示すように、リベット受け孔 32 にかり、第6図に示すように、リベット 22 に固定される。また、この摺動子 23・23'は、弾性を増加すべく下部が網に形成され、その先端回とがあることによって、第6図にデオようにレール本体 6の導電体 10・10上に失々の回動子 23・23'の略中央部にはランプ 24の両、第6図に示すように、ランプ 24を直接保持するとともに、導電体 10からの観流をランプ 24に流す。

上述のように構成されるレール本体 6 とラン ア本体 19とを、例えば、第 2 図及び第 7 図に示

#### 特開昭57-167838 (3)

すように、ルーフパネル36に浴袋され、ドア37, 37′上部の単体側方に配設されたルーフサイドレ ール38 にルームランプ5として設ける協介には、 先ずルーフサイドレール38のインナパネル39内 四面にレール本体 6 をピス15により固定すると 共に、このレール本体6の両側部7,7の上線 をヘッドライニング40で被つて随す。次に館も 図に示したように組立てたランプ本体19をレー ル本体 6 に取付ける。この取付けは、第7図に 示すように、レール本体6の左右の講条8,8 **にランプ本体 19の爪 30,30を嵌め込むものであ** るが、爪 30,30の近傍を内倒に押し込みながら 行なうことによつて容易に嵌め込むことができ る。尚、爪 30,30は 満糸8,8内を滑動できる。 また、この取付けによつで、増動子 23,23'の先 盛屈曲部 34,34/は、夫々別の導電体 10,10 に接 触する。従つて、ランプ本体19を移動させた場 合、爪 30,30 は 游条 8,8 内を 滑動し、また 摺 動子 23,23′は導程体 10,10上を摺動するため、 レール本体 6 上の任意の位置でランプを使用す

(7)

また本発明によれば、電流の供給をコネクタにより行なつているので、従来のように、車窗内天井の中央部にルームランプを設けていたのに比べて配線も短くなり、途中の配線保護具も少なくて済むので、配線のためのコストを軽減することができた。

#### 4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1図は従来のルームランプの取付位置の一例を示す図、第2図は本発明に係るルームランプの取付位置の一例を示す図、第3図はレール本体の斜視図、第4図はランプ本体の分解斜辺図、第5図はコネクタ部分を示す断面説明図、第7図はルームランプ取付状態を示す第2図中A-A線断面図である。

1 … 天 井

3.5 ... ルームランプ

22 … ランフケース

6 …レール本体

8… 解条 (ガイド部) /

10… 遊覧体

11…コネクタ

19 … ランプ本体 23 … 招助子

24 … ランプ

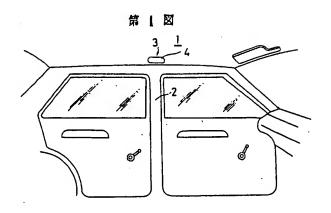
ることができる。尚、レール本体 6 の端部コネクタ 11には、電流供給用コネクタ 13 を接続しておき、その他ルームランプのスイツチング回路 又はルームランプに設けられる手動用スイッチ 等は従来のルームランプと同様の構成からなる。

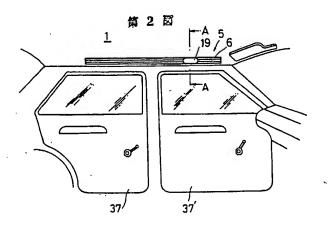
尚、この実施例に係るルームランプは、車両の左右側ルーフサイドレールのいずれかに取付けた場合について説明したが、本発明はこれに限定されるものではなく、車両天井の中央部に削後方向に設けてもよく、または、天井の前側、又は後側あるいは中央部に車幅方向に設けてよい。

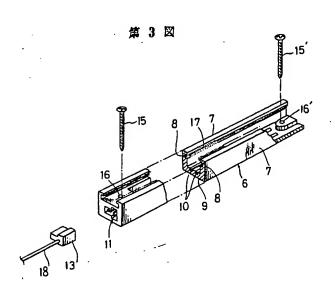
(8)

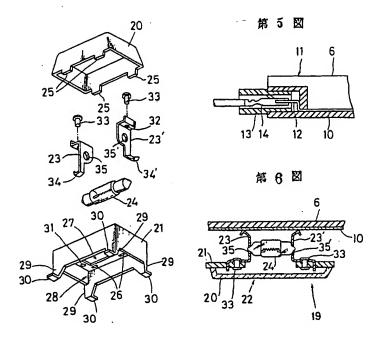
30…爪(被ガイド部)

(9)









# 7 M

